Corruption in the Country

362. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in Punjab Kesari, Delhi under the heading "Bharat Vishwa Ke Sabse Bhrasht Deshon Mein Se Ek", on 27th October, 1999; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto and what steps government have taken or purpose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTEMNT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government its fully alive and committed to the need to eradicate corruption from public life. A three pronged strategy, i.e. preventive, surveillance/detection and deterrent punitive action has been adopted and efforts in this regard have been considerably stepped up of late.

Sale of Sub-Standard Items by Kendriya Bhandar

363. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Bhandar has become dumping ground for not so popular and branded varieties of photocopier papers, fax, photocopier, computers etc. and the same are being approved one after the other and the rates are higher than in the open market;

(b) if so, the names of the photocopier papers, fax, photocopier, computers in sale in the Kendriya Bhandar for the last three years and the details of those introduced alongwith dates of introduction, rates, brand names and sales thereof, brand-wise, monthwise; and

(c) the steps taken to weed out less popular and not reputed brands forthwith?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES, AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES, MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL AND TRAINING, DEPARTMENT OF PENSIONS AND PENSIONERS' WELFARE OF THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Kendriya Bhandar procures photocopier papers in original mill